

Horizons Connect Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2026



Our Values...
Welcoming Teamwork
Friendship Trust
Independence Fun!

Curriculum Enrichment

Writing Curriculum Day – 5th March
Wellbeing Days:
10th February (Children's Mental Health)
20th March (Red Nose Day)

Festivals of the Month

January – Vasant Panchami
February – Chinese New Year
March – Eid Al Fitr

EHCP Targets

All of the students will be working towards the targets in their EHC Plans in all of their lessons.

The activities we do in class will focus on different aspects of these targets, which include:

Communication and Interaction
Cognition and Learning
Sensory and Physical Skills
Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs

Theme:

Supporting pupils in using their skills to interact with others in the wider community

Topic:

Around the World

How is my child's progress being recorded?

Each student works towards their individual targets, which are assessed on a weekly basis and recorded using the Engagement Model, in the areas of Exploration, Realisation, Anticipation, Persistence and Initiation.

Their overall progress is measured using the 'Routes for Learning' assessment framework, using video evidence to capture their achievements towards all of their targets.

Communication Skills

Sensory Story

Pupils will develop their communication skills through an 'Around the World' sensory story, exploring different countries using a range of sensory experiences. They will smell spices from India, listen to an Australian didgeridoo, and feel animal fur from Africa.

These activities encourage pupils to express preferences, make choices, and engage with familiar stimuli using their preferred communication methods, such as gestures, vocalisations, eye gaze, or symbols. Sessions will support shared attention, interaction, and progress towards individual communication targets.

TACPAC

A TACPAC style sessions will enable students to develop their communication skills through structured, sensory-based interactions. TACPAC uses touch and sound to encourage shared attention, anticipation, and purposeful responses. Students will explore a range of sensory items, such as fur and fans that will represent different countries around the world, to support them in expressing preferences and engaging with familiar routines.

Motor Skills

Movement

Students will follow individual movement plans developed by their physiotherapists to support their physical development and wellbeing. Sessions will use a range of equipment, including trikes, sports wheelchairs, benches, and standing frames, to promote mobility, strength, and independence in a safe and supportive environment.

Dance

Students will take part in dance activities that encourage both fine and gross motor skills. Equipment such as pom poms, balls, and ribbons will be used to make sessions engaging and fun. All songs and movements will link to the 'Around the World' theme, allowing students to explore different cultures through music and movement.

Rebound and Hydrotherapy

Students will continue to work towards their personalised targets and other relevant EHCP targets. They will attend the activities on a rota basis during their class movement sessions.

Students will participate in a variety of activities that promote independence and movement.

Thinking Skills

Computing

Computing lessons will give students the opportunity to develop their thinking and problem-solving skills through a variety of engaging, accessible activities. Students will be able to use a wide range of technology tailored to their needs, including switches, touch screen computers, iPads, eye gaze devices, and sensory lights, all designed to encourage participation and interaction.

During sessions, students will respond to stimuli on the screen, such as music, videos, and interactive activities, all linked to the 'Around the World' theme. This allows students to explore different cultures while working on their individual targets, building confidence in using technology, and developing communication, cause-and-effect understanding, and attention skills in a fun and meaningful way.

PSHCE

This term, students will explore Taking Part and Making Choices through sensory activities, music, movement, and community visits. They will be encouraged to make choices, express preferences, and take part in group experiences to build confidence and communication skills.

Music

Students will be exploring dynamics (loud and quiet sounds), using contrasting songs from around the world as a focus when exploring their developing skills. Through instrumental and vocal work, they will become familiar with a range of fun songs from different countries, including Australia, India, France and Spain.

Community Inclusion

Students will take part in meaningful community-based learning, linking with the Where Next day centre in Redditch, including opportunities to engage in activities within its garden centre setting. Visits will help students build confidence in new environments and develop communication skills with unfamiliar staff. While at the centre, students will take part in craft and dance activities, supporting engagement, independence, and social interaction.

Art

Students will have opportunities to make choices about their learning, such as which colours, materials, or objects to use. They will work on fine motor skills using tools like scissors, paint brushes, and pens. Students will explore landscapes from snowy countries like Norway to warmer regions like Africa.